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**GOVERNOR GRAY DAVIS PROPOSES \$15.5 MILLION IN
GRANTS TO ENHANCE COASTAL RESOURCES**

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gray Davis today released a draft Coastal Impact Assistance Plan for California requesting \$15,477,740 in federal grant funds to help protect, manage, and enhance California's coastal and ocean resources.

"These grant funds offer California an unprecedented opportunity to help protect our ocean resources," Governor Davis said. "In addition, they will help address critical shoreline erosion problems along our entire 1,100-mile-long coast."

The plan, prepared in response to HR 5344 (The Commerce, Justice, State Fiscal Year 2001 Appropriations Act), details a comprehensive partnership between the federal government, the State of California, and 20 local coastal governments to support significant improvements for the coast.

"This effort is a prime example of how federal, state, and local governments can work together to fund projects to protect the environment," Governor Davis said.

HR 5344 is intended to help coastal states mitigate the impacts of offshore oil and gas development. Congress appropriated \$150 million to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to be allocated to seven coastal states, including California. Under the formula 65 percent of the funds go directly to the affected state and 35 percent go to local political jurisdictions (coastal counties). Under this allocation scheme, the state's share of the \$15,477,740 is approximately \$10 million with approximately \$5.4 million earmarked for eligible coastal counties.

California Congressman George Miller, a key author of the legislation, stated, "This program will make it possible for local communities in California and in other impacted states to acquire crucial shoreline lands for trails, parks and other recreational, fishery and coastal protection initiatives that would otherwise lack crucial funding."

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The plan includes proposed projects within the following categories:

- **Coastal Access (\$2,210,202):** Projects to help meet statewide objectives such as helping to establish a statewide coastal trail, as well as a variety of regional and local projects to improve access to California's ocean and coastal resources.
- **Coastal Habitat/Wetlands (\$3,364,559):** Projects to help inventory, acquire, and restore California's wetlands and special habitats.
- **Economics (\$100,000):** A project to update information on the contribution of the coast to the California and national economy.
- **Geographic Information Systems (\$477,107):** Projects to help develop new or improved Geographic Information Systems to display, analyze, and communicate information about coastal and ocean resources.
- **Marine Life/Fisheries (\$1,923,934):** Projects to improve fishery management tools, marine protective area processes, and resource assessments related to marine life management.
- **Ocean and Coastal Planning/Management (\$1,640,651):** Projects to improve planning and management approaches to protecting and managing California's ocean and coastal resources.
- **Offshore Oil and Gas (\$450,000):** Projects to help the State of California and local governments address the specific impacts of oil and gas and other energy proposals.
- **Research (\$950,000):** Projects to support coordinated statewide and site specific marine research.
- **Shoreline Erosion. (\$1,200,000):** Projects to help manage coastal erosion, particularly analyses regarding ways to control the movement of sand that provides the building blocks for California's beaches.
- **Watersheds/Water Quality (\$2,789,194):** Projects to improve our protection and management of watersheds, rivers, and streams located throughout California.

The state agencies that would receive funding under the proposal include the California Resources Agency, California Coastal Commission, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, California Coastal Conservancy, and the California Departments of Fish and Game, Parks, and Boating and Waterways. The twenty coastal counties that would receive funding include: Alameda, Contra Costa, Del Norte, Humboldt, Los Angeles, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, Orange, San Diego, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, and Ventura.

This plan will be subject to a 30-day public review and then will be considered for approval by the federal Office of Coastal Resource Management. Comments should be sent to: Chris Potter, California Resources Agency, 1416 Ninth St. Suite 1311,

Sacramento, California 95814 or by e-mail at chrisp@resources.ca.gov. Comments must be received by November 26, 2001.

The full text of the plan is available online at <http://ceres.ca.gov>.

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Print copies of the draft document are available at local libraries throughout California (see attached list). For a hard copy contact Clifton Moberg at the Resources Agency (916.653-5656) or Clifton@resources.ca.gov